

THE PACIFIC COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER

WALTER G. SMITH

EDITOR.

THURSDAY

NOVEMBER 16

MISCHIEVOUS SENSATIONALISM.

Other than a random contention set up by the attorney for the petitioner in the Fernandez-Adams contest, who confessedly took the case with both reluctance and unpreparedness, there was absolutely no occasion for the raising of an alarm yesterday afternoon regarding the validity of the county elections as a whole.

The contention in question was that there should be a separate ballot paper for each distinct county office. Whether it would be a good thing to have it so, the law does not so prescribe and the Supreme Court, at least by a majority, did not entertain the argument.

As to the accidental discovery of ballots improperly marked which were nevertheless among the counted bunches, there cannot be any reason to suppose that enough of such entered into the count to have changed the declared results. The ballots exposed in court were from precincts where the most blundering by voters was done in Honolulu, and probably this would be equally true of them if a comparison of all the ballots cast in the Territory were instituted. Yet, taking the ballots inspected as a criterion, the showing they made as to parties and candidates fairly established a probability that a complete recount would have left most, if not all, of the candidates declared elected stronger than the returns showed.

Then, excepting the case that collapsed yesterday, there was no protest extant upon which the results could be legally attacked even if graver irregularities had been unearthed in this particular trial. There would have to be something tangible for anyone disposed to disturb the existing county government to hang an inquisitorial petition of any kind upon. The courts do not encourage fishing excursions, especially when obviously antagonistic to public policy.

When the Supreme Court sustained the validity of the present County Act, it became the part of all well-meaning citizens to give the system a fair trial. Revolutionary and far-fetched exploiting of legal quibbles to prevent or delay the smooth-working of the system were and are to be discouraged. Therefore, any attempt to spring a disturbing sensation upon the community, such as was made yesterday afternoon, deserves nothing but reprobation.

THE ISLE OF PINES REVOLT.

The trouble in the Isle of Pines dates back to the transfer of that fine property to Cuba after the United States had annexed it by virtue of its treaty with Spain. Article II. of that treaty contains the following provision: "Spain cedes to the United States the island of Puerto Rico and other islands now under Spanish sovereignty in the West Indies, and the island of Guam in the Marianas or Ladroneas." Among the "other islands" was the Isle of Pines, a possession which bears about the same geographical relation to the Cuban coast that Minorca does to Spain. The United States claimed the island and for a time administered it.

Considering the political status as settled many Americans went to the Isle of Pines and laid out large sugar estates and embarked in other lines of business. Then Cuba was organized with Palma as president and the government, answering popular clamor, appealed to the United States to restore Cuba's insular province, whereupon the United States proceeded to do so. This session left the American planters between the devil and the deep sea. Instead of raising undisturbed American sugar they found themselves producing a well-taxed Cuban sugar; and if they didn't like the situation they might leave.

This and the petty exactions of Cuban officials started the peaceful revolution by virtue of which the American residents of the Isle of Pines have organized a territory and asked for annexation to the United States. For their sedition move they have chosen a time when Palma and his ministers are occupied by a grave internal crisis. Doubtless they have much enthusiasm and hope as Hawaii's Americans did in the earliest days of their annexationist movement, but that there is a ghost of a show for them is a matter of serious doubt. The Cuban policy of Roosevelt is one of the utmost friendliness and the President is not at all likely, for the sake of helping a few sugar planters, to do anything to increase the embarrassments, especially to secure the disruption, of the infant republic.

THE CZAR'S PERIL.

The Czar must be seared indeed if he is agreed, as reported, to surrender to the peasants one-third of European Russia, comprising the greater part of the imperial domain. These lands from the accession of the House of Romanoff have been used as a perquisite of the Czar, being leased for the most part to the agricultural population. All revenues of Russia belong to the Czar by law, but the public land revenues only are supposed to go into his private fortune. Nicholas II. by virtue of this property is one of the richest men in Europe; if he loses it he will still be far ahead of the wolf but deprived of the means to provide for all his relatives as he now does. Doubtless Russia would be more than willing to see the Grand Dukes cut off the payroll.

But the chief aspect of the promised land transfer is in the panic it reveals. Concession after concession has been thrown out of the imperial balloon to raise it far above the heads of the mob but the latter keeps riddling the silken fabric with its arrows and letting out the gas. Down will come the balloon some day bringing everything it is carrying. Plainly the people want all the autocracy has left. The Czar took all from the people and why should not the people take all from the Czar? Within six months they have secured free speech, a free press, freedom of assembly, a parliament, release of political prisoners and have been promised universal suffrage and possession of the Czar's land. There is not much left save the government itself and this they are gazing at with covetous eyes.

Kalaka'ua's birthday does not get much notice now and there is no reason why it should. It is the custom the world over when one sovereign dies and is succeeded by another, to drop the birthday of the former from the calendar of fetes, and substitute the birthday of the latter. An exception is made for a great man like Napoleon or Kamehameha I., but Kalaka'ua had nothing great about him. He was simply a "good-fellow" in the bohemian version of the term whom the desire of the American residents here to defeat Queen Emma, the English candidate, raised from the postoffice to the throne. Kalaka'ua subsided long ago and should have taken his birthday with him.

The Armenians are always being "massacred." As there are many of them and as they are the well-to-do people of the Ottoman and Slav empires, the wonder is that they do not make a fight. Instead they run to the nearest telegraph office and retail their alleged woes to the foreign press and the missionary societies. We have long suspected that humbug had its part in framing the Armenian news-budgets.

If seven hundred Armenians allowed four hundred Tartars to murder them it is time that the police stepped in to protect the Armenians. Surely Sheriff Brown should do something.—Star.

He probably would if the Armenians would hire Chillingworth for their lawyer.

George Bernard Shaw has now disposed of Irving as an "uncultivated egotist." Three months ago he pulled Shakespeare's plays into bits and said he could write better ones himself. As a self-cultivated egotist Mr. Shaw seems to have the cabbage patch to himself.

Perhaps the setting in of winter will cool off the Russian mobs and postpone anarchy until spring.

Vladivostok appears to have done itself more damage than the Japanese mapped out.

AS TO THE CITY PARKS

(Continued from Page 1.)

to it. Both of these ends will require the united support not only of the Civic Federation, but of all who are interested in the improvement of the city. The committee wishes to call attention to the large amount of interest

that exists among the officials of the administration and among individuals in civic improvement. It hopes that all persons, official and unofficial, may cooperate in this good work.

Respectfully submitted,
A. F. GRIFFITHS,
Chairman, Committee on Parks, Streets and Public Works.

The other members of this commit-

tee are F. J. Lowrey, G. W. Smith, F. S. Dodge, R. S. Hosmer. The Executive Committee appropriated money for the cans for papers and rubbish to be placed near the Post Office. It was also voted that this Civic Federation affiliate with the American Civic Association.

ORPHEUM COMPANY SCORES BIG HIT

A crowded house at the Orpheum theater last night greeted Richard Buhler and his players in the initial presentation of Dumas' famous romance, "The Three Musketeers." The company scored a big success. The actors and actresses were given roles which they played well, while the scenery was in perfect keeping throughout. It was a drama which required several scenes. The play will be repeated again to-night and the indications point to another equally crowded house, while box parties are forming for the remainder of the week's presentations.

Mr. Buhler as the happy-go-lucky D'Artagnan, with his trusty blade "Bobby," was in his element, and every appearance of the swashbuckler on the stage was the signal for salvos of applause. Richelleu was in the excellent keeping of Mr. Gleason, while the Three Musketeers were played excellently by Messrs. Wilkes, Lowell and Auerbach. Buckingham was ably presented by Mr. Earl and the King by Mr. Drum.

Miss Fowler as Anne of Austria showed her capabilities in stronger roles and not only looked and dressed the part of the Queen, but sustained the character admirably. Miss Hayward as Lady de Winter, the arch-conspirator and adventuress, played the role of the cold-blooded woman seeking for revenge in a manner calculated to display her splendid talent in such a character. This is her best role thus far this season. Miss Chandler as the vivacious Constance was quite charming, and her musical specialty between acts caught the gallery as usual. The other roles were well taken care of.

The Orpheum's patrons are also entertained by the excellent music of the Symphony Orchestra.

VOTERS TABULATED AS TO NATIVITY

Chief Clerk Buckland of the Secretary's office has had tables compiled showing the nationality of registered voters since 1900. The following abstract shows the totals of the six representative districts for 1902 and 1904:

Nativity.	1902.	1904.
Hawaii	8,630	9,269
America	1,932	1,872
Portugal	594	728
United Kingdom	546	542
Germany	369	391
Other Foreign	353	321
Sweden	52	52
China	143	175
Japan	3	2

Grand totals

It will be seen that while the total increase of all voters is 641, the increase of Hawaiians is 589 or all but 61 of the total. Americans decreased by 60, while Portuguese increased by 134. "The yellow peril" increased by 32 Chinese and diminished by one Japanese.

Jawback—"My mother's cooking." Mrs. Jawback—"Well, she deserves it. But I didn't think you'd acknowledge it so shortly after her death."—Cleveland Leader.

Miss Newlywed—"Well, Henry, how do you like my pies?" Mr. Newlywed—"Dearest, they are just like the pies that my father used to say were not like his mother used to make!"—Life.

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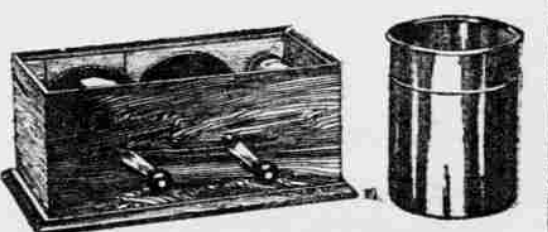
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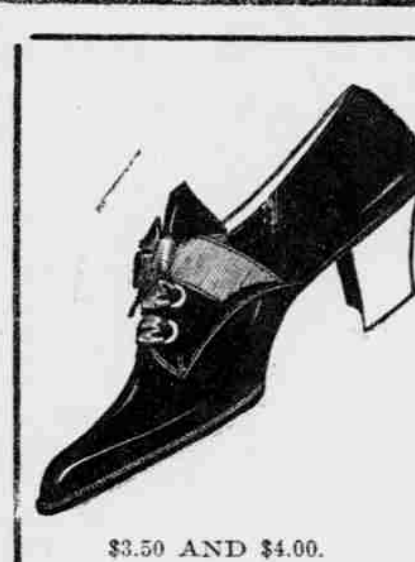
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